

More About the Trolley

Joseph Shumard

to:

Janelle Schmidt

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A clarification first: the suggestions that there be a charge to ride the King Street Trolley or that funding for this be eliminated, have been made by members of the public and not from members of the City Council. Although the Trolley was not a subject of the Budget Work Session last night, it is important that we speak to our City officials and convey to them how important this issue is to the business community.

The Trolley has been a success since it started service on April 1, 2008. Ridership in the first year was approximately 640,000 and the ridership at the King Street Metro Station increased by about 3% - also in that first year! The funding for the trolley primarily comes from a 1% addition to the hotel tax (5.5% increased to 6.5%). Last year the trolley budget got cut as part of the across the board cuts -- so headways and service hours were reduced, although the tax that was associated with it generated increasing revenues.

At least for now, no one on the City Council is suggesting that funding of the King Street Trolley be reduced or eliminated. However the free Trolley is important to the business community and should be used as a model for expansion into other business districts in the City. If you wish to express these concerns to City Council, please call 703-746-4550 to sign up and speak at tonight's budget hearing beginning at 4pm in Council Chambers. Tina Leone will be there tonight as well to deliver the Chamber's comments on the FY2011 City Budget.

Thank you for your support!

Tina Leone

President/CEO

Alexandria Chamber of Commerce

801 N Fairfax St, Suite 402

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## SPEAKER'S FORM

DOCKET ITEM NO. 2

PLEASE COMPLETE THIS FORM AND GIVE IT TO THE CITY CLERK  
BEFORE YOU SPEAK ON A DOCKET ITEM.

**PLEASE ANNOUNCE THE INFORMATION SPECIFIED BELOW PRIOR TO SPEAKING.**

1. **NAME:** Tina Leone
  
2. **ADDRESS:** Alexandria Chamber 801 N Fairfax St, Alex VA 22314  
**TELEPHONE NO.** 703-739-3802 **E-MAIL:** tleone@alexchamber.com
  
3. **WHOM DO YOU REPRESENT, IF OTHER THAN YOURSELF?**  
Alexandria Chamber of Commerce
  
4. **WHAT IS YOUR POSITION ON THE ITEM?**  
Other
  
5. **NATURE OF YOUR INTEREST IN ITEM (PROPERTY OWNER, ATTORNEY,  
LOBBYIST, CIVIC INTEREST, ETC.):**  
Chamber membership
  
6. **ARE YOU RECEIVING COMPENSATION FOR THIS APPEARANCE BEFORE  
COUNCIL?**  
Yes

This form shall be kept as a part of the permanent record in those instances where financial interest or compensation is indicated by the speaker.

A maximum of three minutes will be allowed for your presentation, except that one officer or other designated member speaking on behalf of each *bona fide* neighborhood civic association or unit owners' association desiring to be heard on a docket item shall be allowed five minutes. In order to obtain five minutes, you must identify yourself as a designated speaker, and identify the neighborhood civic association or unit owners' association you represent, at the start of your presentation. If you have a prepared statement, please leave a copy with the Clerk.

Additional time not to exceed 15 minutes may be obtained with the consent of the majority of the council present; provided notice requesting additional time with reasons stated is filed with the City Clerk in writing before 5:00 p.m. of the day preceding the meeting.

The public normally may speak on docket items only at public hearing meetings, and not at regular legislative meetings. Public hearing meetings are usually held on the Saturday following the second Tuesday in each month; regular legislative meetings on the second and fourth Tuesdays in each month. The rule with respect to when a person may speak to a docket item at a legislative meeting can be waived by a majority vote of council members present but such a waiver is not normal practice. When a speaker is recognized, the rules of procedures for speakers at public hearing meetings shall apply. If an item is docketed *for public hearing* at a regular legislative meeting, the public may speak to that item, and the rules of procedures for speakers at public hearing meetings shall apply.